

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A method for managing a machinery supply chain utilizing a network,  
2 comprising:  
3 a) receiving data from a plurality of machinery outlets of a machinery supply chain  
4 utilizing a network, the data relating to the sale of machinery products by the  
5 machinery outlets;  
6 b) generating an electronic order form based on the data for ordering machinery  
7 products from a machinery distributor of the machinery supply chain;  
8 c) transmitting the data to the machinery distributor of the machinery supply chain  
9 utilizing the network;  
10 d) transmitting the data to a machinery supplier of the machinery supply chain  
11 utilizing the network; and  
12 e) forecasting activity in the machinery supply chain utilizing the data.
- 1 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the data is parsed to match each of a plurality of  
2 machinery distributors and machinery suppliers.
- 1 3. The method of claim 2, wherein the data is made accessible to the machinery  
2 outlets, the machinery distributor, the machinery supplier via a network-based  
3 interface.
- 1 4. The method of claim 3, wherein the data is accessible to the machinery distributor  
2 and the machinery supplier only after verification of an identity thereof.
- 1 5. The method of claim 1, wherein the network includes the Internet.

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- 1 6. The method of claim 1, wherein the machinery outlets, the machinery distributor,  
2 and the machinery supplier each forecast utilizing the data.
- 1 7. A system for managing a machinery supply chain utilizing a network, comprising:  
2 a) logic for receiving data from a plurality of machinery outlets of a machinery  
3 supply chain utilizing a network, the data relating to the sale of machinery by the  
4 machinery outlets;  
5 b) logic for generating an electronic order form based on the data for ordering  
6 machinery from a machinery distributor of the machinery supply chain;  
7 c) logic for transmitting the data to the machinery distributor of the machinery  
8 supply chain utilizing the network;  
9 d) logic for transmitting the data to a machinery supplier of the machinery supply  
10 chain utilizing the network; and  
11 e) logic for forecasting activity in the machinery supply chain utilizing the data.
- 1 8. The system of claim 7, wherein the data is parsed to match each of a plurality of  
2 machinery distributors and machinery suppliers.
- 1 9. The system of claim 8, wherein the data is made accessible to the machinery  
2 outlets, the machinery distributor, the machinery supplier via a network-based  
3 interface.
- 1 10. The system of claim 9, wherein the data is accessible to the machinery distributor  
2 and the machinery supplier only after verification of an identity thereof.
- 1 11. The system of claim 7, wherein the network includes the Internet.
- 1 12. The system of claim 7, wherein the machinery outlets, the machinery distributor,  
2 and the machinery supplier each forecast utilizing the data.

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- 1 13. A computer program product for managing a machinery supply chain utilizing a  
2 network, comprising:
  - 3 a) computer code for receiving data from a plurality of machinery outlets of a  
4 machinery supply chain utilizing a network, the data relating to the sale of  
5 machinery by the machinery outlets;
  - 6 b) computer code for generating an electronic order form based on the data for  
7 ordering machinery from a machinery distributor of the machinery supply chain;
  - 8 c) computer code for transmitting the data to the machinery distributor of the  
9 machinery supply chain utilizing the network;
  - 10 d) computer code for transmitting the data to a machinery supplier of the machinery  
11 supply chain utilizing the network; and
  - 12 e) computer code for forecasting activity in the machinery supply chain utilizing the  
13 data.

- 1 14. The computer program product of claim 13, wherein the data is parsed to match  
2 each of a plurality of machinery distributors and machinery suppliers.

- 1 15. The computer program product of claim 14, wherein the data is made accessible  
2 to the machinery outlets, the machinery distributor, the machinery supplier via a  
3 network-based interface.

- 1 16. The computer program product of claim 15, wherein the data is accessible to the  
2 machinery distributor and the machinery supplier only after verification of an  
3 identity thereof.

- 1 17. The computer program product of claim 13, wherein the network includes the  
2 Internet.

- 1 18. The computer program product of claim 13, wherein the machinery outlets, the  
2 machinery distributor, and the machinery supplier each forecast utilizing the data.